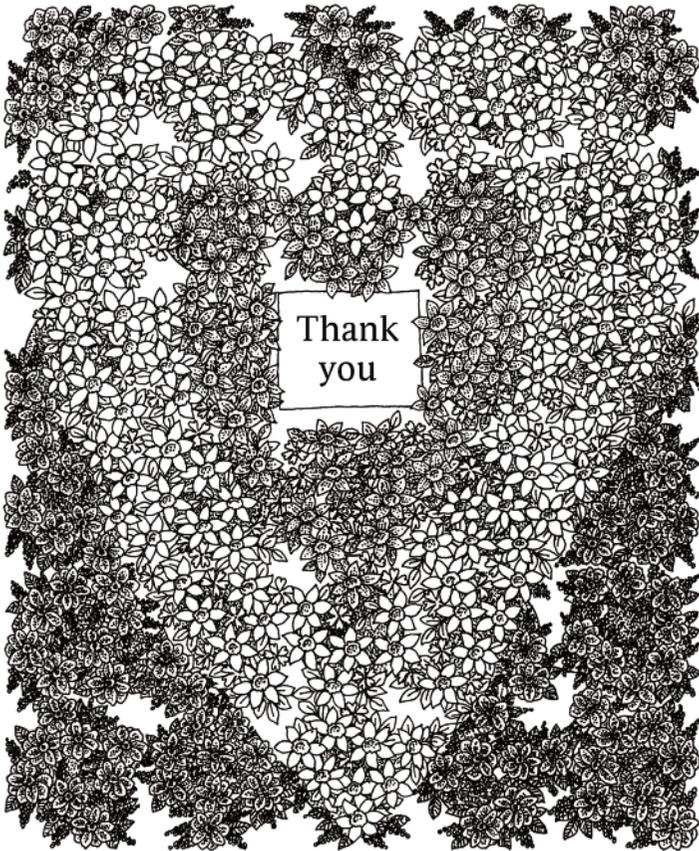


March 2020  
Vol.127 No.1551  
Price 50p

# SAINTS ALIVE



# ALL SAINTS

The Parish Magazine  
of All Saints' Parish Church,  
Cheadle Hulme

# INFORMATION PAGE

## SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Holy Communion (2nd in month)  
10.00am Parish Eucharist  
6.30pm Evensong

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

### Holy Communion

Thursday 10.00am.  
Holy Days to be announced.

### Matins

Daily at 9.00am.



## CONFESSION AND SPIRITUAL COUNSELLING

By arrangement with the Clergy.

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR BAPTISMS, BANNS AND WEDDINGS

All enquiries to Rev'd Janet Bacon (485 3455).

## MOTHERS' UNION

Corporate Communion 10.00am on the 2nd Thursday in Church. Details of all meetings are in Saints Alive and weekly notices. See Notice Board.

## MENS' SOCIETY

Monthly meetings on the 1st Thursday, September to May, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.  
Chairman: Mr Bradley Torbitt (486 9387).  
Secretary: Mr Mike Parry (485 7886).

## FRIDAY CLUB

Fortnightly meetings on Friday evening usually in the Meeting Room at 7.30pm. Open to women of all age groups. Chairman is Lily Mitchelhill (485 5187) Secretary is Julia Ball (440 8647)

## JAMES GROUP

The James Group exists to encourage the Church's ministry of healing, and the practice of regular intercession for the sick. The branch meets monthly to say an Office of Intercession: there is also a monthly Corporate Communion. For further information please contact: The Secretary: Pat Yates (485 4546).

## BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

Secretary: Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647).

## UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

**Cubs:** (7th Cheadle Hulme) Meet on a Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm at Thorn Grove.  
Andrew Thompson  
email:andy.thompson@cheadlescouts.org.uk

**Beavers:** (7th Cheadle Hulme)  
Meet on a Friday 6.00pm - 7.15pm in the Parish Rooms. Mrs J. Metcalfe  
jacquie.metcalfe@cheadlescouts.org.uk

**Brownies:** (11th Cheadle Hulme)  
Meet on a Monday 6.00pm - 7.15pm at Thorn Grove.  
Jo Taylor  
brownow11thcheadlehulme@yahoo.com

**Rainbows:** (2nd Cheadle Hulme)  
Meet on a Monday 6.00pm - 7.00pm



# Interregnum Prayer

God our Father,

In this time of vacancy we pray that, as your people here at All Saints', we may work together in harmony and seek to further the work of your Kingdom. We thank you for your provision for us in the past, and we pray that, in due time, you will provide for us a loving, godly and inspiring Vicar to lead and guide us. This we ask in the name of your Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## Interregnum News

As you are all aware, our vicar Janet Bacon retired at the beginning of December, and since then our church has been in what is known as an Interregnum. During this period the churchwardens are responsible for the running and upkeep of the church until a new incumbent is appointed.

The process of finding a new vicar started with a meeting of the PCC and the Rural Dean when, along with several other things, it was decided that the two people to represent us through and during the interview process would be our Churchwardens, Janet Ashman and John Ackerley. At that meeting we were given a Parish Fact Sheet to return to the Diocese, and agreed to approve the Parish Profile of around 12 pages which had been prepared over a number of weeks by a small group of PCC members and which includes a role description for the new incumbent, details of the church, the congregation, the finances, the area, etc. (This can be viewed on the parish website.) This document will be given to all applicants on request.

This is where we were up to in early February. Our advert is on the Diocesan Website, Pathways, and in the Church Times for four weeks from February 7th. The closing date for applications is 16th March, short-listing 19th March and interviews 3rd April.

The interviews will be conducted by the Archdeacon, Rural Dean and the Churchwardens. The applicants who have been short-listed may make appointments with the Churchwardens to look around the church and vicarage giving all a chance to meet informally. Once the post has been offered it could be three months before our new vicar arrives. If the position is not filled we start all over again.

We hope this has given you an insight as to what is happening in your church at the moment. We ask you to pray for us at this important time.

**COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL - MARCH 6TH  
ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR PLEASE**

# Forty Days... Plus

The month of February for this year is over and gone.

If climate-change has not disrupted the established progression from season to season we should now be being buffeted by March winds. Whatever the weather, we may well be looking forward to the weeks and months that lie ahead.

Those who yearn for the “great outdoors”, but have hesitated to venture far from the shelter of their centrally-heated homes, may be getting ready for getting out-and-about. The keen gardeners will have already been busy, having received their orders from the seed and seedling suppliers who weeks ago will have sent out their latest catalogues to all who are on their mailing lists.

But there is another dimension to this month. We may be full of the “joys of spring”, but other aspects of life make their presence known. For Ash Wednesday has been and gone. We have entered the sobering season of Lent. For the next forty days and forty nights (and more), we should be faithfully looking *inward*, not looking *outward*. For many years I have included in my daily devotions the C of E’s Lenten book for 1982. This, day by day, provides the reader with a short passage of Scripture and a meditation. The book is “Into the Way of Peace” and reminds us of the Fruits of the Spirit - “Love, Joy and Peace... and Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control.”

I wonder, in the eyes of some people at least, whether it is not considered “seemly” to appear *joyful* at this time. Peaceful - yes, Loving, undoubtedly, but *Joyful - full of joy* - surely not! Not in the penitential Season of Lent.

It was only a few days ago, that, one of the hymns traditionally sung on Ash Wednesday was:

*“Forty days and forty nights  
Forty days and forty nights,  
Tempted and yet undefiled.”*

It is agreed that Lent is no time for levity. But, at the same time, surely, as Christians we are encouraged to “Rejoice in all circumstance.”

In the book I mentioned above, the author, Bishop Maurice Wood, wrote this in the introduction about the “Forty days and forty nights fasting in the wilderness.” In the early Church and still today, each Sunday is a memorial of Christ’s resurrection, so the forty days are the weekdays from Ash Wednesday to Easter Eve. That is something I shall endeavour to keep in mind over the days ahead. *Claud Metson*





## Saintly, Clever, and a Lover of Cats

Checking for winter saints, I was surprised to see Samuel Johnson of dictionary fame included in the Anglican calendar of holy and venerable people. Dr. Johnson, witty moralist and pithy essayist, was a devout, high-church Anglican born in Lichfield in 1709. The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography describes him as "arguably the most distinguished man of letters in English history".

Samuel's Church of England religious faith was not quite conventional. In his dictionary he defined religion as:

"Virtue founded upon reverence for God and expectation of future rewards and punishments." In the Age of

Enlightenment he struggled to maintain his own joyless belief and was painfully conscious of sin and its consequences. Johnson's God was a stern judge.

As a child, Samuel contracted a disease that destroyed one eye, impaired his hearing and left disfiguring scars.

Perhaps this, and his struggles with a neurological disorder (possibly the tics of Tourette's Syndrome) and his highly moral and rational view of life is the reason for his melancholy presence on the Anglican calendar of saints.

Dr. Johnson is a rich source of thought-provoking quotations. Here are just a few to think about in March.

*The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good.*

He who makes a beast of himself gets rid of the pain of being a man.

*Almost every man wastes part of his life attempting to display qualities which he does not possess.*

Courage is the greatest of all virtues, because if you haven't courage, you may not have an opportunity to use any of the others.

*Man alone is born crying, lives complaining, and dies disappointed.*

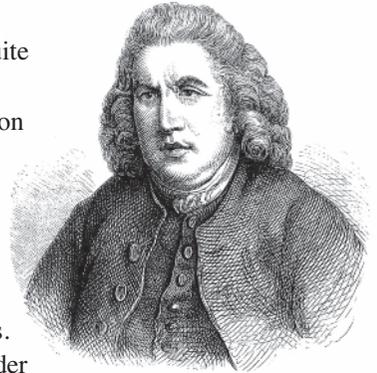
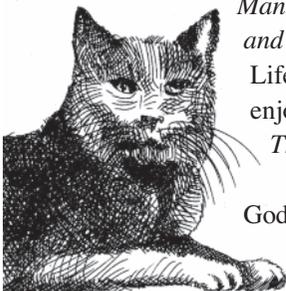
Life is a progress from want to want, not from enjoyment to enjoyment.

*That we must all die, we always knew; I wish I had remembered it sooner.*

God Himself does not propose to judge a man until his life is over.

Why should you and I?

*Gay Saunders*



# Revision of All Saints' Electoral Roll 2020



Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year will be held on Sunday 26th April and the revision of the Electoral Roll has to be completed between March 29th and April 12th. Your name must appear on the Electoral Roll if you wish to take part in and vote at the Annual Church Meeting, also if you wish to be on the PCC or a sidesperson.

A copy of the present Roll will be available at the back of church from Sunday 15th March to enable you to check your entry.

If you would like your name to be added to the Roll please ask me or one of the churchwardens for an application form. Completed applications for entry, and written notes of required corrections or names that should be removed from the Roll, must be passed to me or a churchwarden before Sunday 5th April.

*David Jones, Electoral Roll Officer*



*How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,  
And drives away his fear.  
It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
And calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,  
And to the weary rest.*



## A Message From The Editor

I am taking the highly unusual step of having a holiday this year. Along with my wife, Anna, I'll be exploring the incredible archaeological sites of Aztec, Mayan and Toltec cultures throughout Mexico, Guatemala and Belize. This means that as well as leaving my kids in the care of my dogs, I'll be away from my desk between April 3rd and April 20th. If you can get any submissions to me for the May issue in late March that would be much appreciated, so that I can, at least, get started. Apologies also in advance if the issue is produced a little later than usual. *Rhys Davenport, Editor*

# A Rich Resource



At a Parish Communion recently a member of the choir led the prayers. She began by quoting the words of a hymn which, she said, had embodied her thoughts during her own private devotions. Like the Psalms, our Anglican Hymns Old and New are poems set to music. They include songs of praise and worship to God, songs of thanksgiving and fellowship, corporate expressions of our worship as a body of Christian people. But, as with the Psalms, the hymn book also includes poems expressing the writers' own individual cries to God, expressions of love and commitment, or pleas for help and guidance.

Prayer isn't easy, I find, and often it is hard to find the right words to express what I feel. For me too, this is where the hymn writers can help:

*"When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of Glory died . . .  
 . . . love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."*

How could I possibly express the heart of my faith better, than in Isaac Watts' immortal words?

In a time of pain, despair and desolation, I cry with George Matheson, who lost his sight and was deserted by those he held dear,

*"Oh love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee . . .  
 . . . I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,  
 that morn shall tearless be."*

When prayer turns into a song of praise, with Francis Rowley,

*"I will sing the wondrous story of the Christ who died for me . . .  
 . . . I was lost but Jesus found me, found the sheep that went astray . . ."*

And at the end of the day, with Henry Francis Lyte,

*"Abide with me, fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me  
 abide . . . O thou who changes not, abide with me."*

Uplifting in church, inspiring at home, these great hymns are a rich resource indeed!

*Douglas Scarisbrick*



# Lent lunches



## food and fellowship

**Every Saturday in Lent from 12 noon to 2 pm:**

29 February at St Ann's Catholic Church

7 March at Cheadle Hulme Quakers

14 March at Grove Lane Baptist Church

21 March at All Saints Parish Church

28 March at Cheadle Hulme URC

4 April at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

**NO NEED TO BOOK - ALL WELCOME**

Contact [cheadlehulmechurches@gmail.com](mailto:cheadlehulmechurches@gmail.com) for more information



# Reflected Faith: the Altar

The long list of television programmes concerned with renovating, moving home, and celebrity homes shows how interested we are in other people's homes, and how they live. The style and furnishings of the buildings vary considerably, and you can find out a great deal about the person by looking at what they have on display or indeed the lack of items.

In my house the only books on show are related to walking and gardening, and the wall pictures are either old and family heirlooms or show the natural world. Yet in every house there are some things that are pretty much a given: they're always there in one form or another.

It's the same in churches. No matter how old the building is, or how many times it has been re-ordered, there are some items which are constant.

The first of these essential items is the 'Altar' or 'Table'. In the majority of churches this is the place of most 'holiness' and where 'reverence' is given. The place where 'Bread is broken, and wine outpoured' in remembrance of Christ's last meal with His disciples. As a retired parish priest, I now conduct services wherever I am invited and am aware of the variations of design and constituents of the altar everywhere I go.

This month: Ask to have a look at the actual altar at your own church or a place you visit. What size is it and what is it made from? Are there any special marks carved into it? What can you find out about the history of it? Has it always been standing in that same place?

## Look for good pasture – spend time with good people

There are some people who inspire you to be all you can as a Christian. When you meet one of these, it is a good idea to stay near them, and learn all you can from them.

We are affected by the people whom we spend time with – pray that you will meet people who will lift you up, and not drag you down, in your Christian walk. The Bible says: 'He who walks with wise men will be wise.' (Proverbs 13:20)

Many Christians admit that their present Christian faith was built on the wonderful example of Christians they met during their teenage years. They were inspired and encouraged and moulded by these older Christians. What a wonderful gift they were given! Good spiritual nourishment is vital for building a strong, vibrant faith.

Seeing God bless someone else can increase your own desire to reach higher, and also be blessed in that way. When you see a 'successful' Christian, don't be envious, and want to sabotage them. Instead, be inspired and ask God to use you in some fruitful way.

But remember – Jesus said that HE is the vine, and we are only the branches. No branch is ever going to flourish unless it stays deeply attached to the vine.

# Real Easter Eggs celebrate their 10th birthday!

The Real Easter Egg campaign has been running since 2010 and involves thousands of churches, schools and groups. It crosses all denominations and offers individuals a simple way to share the Easter Story while supporting Fairtrade and charitable projects.



The idea began in 2008 when I was given a chocolate Easter Egg.

On the side of the box it read: ‘Easter is the festival of chocolate and loveliness’. I began to wonder – was it right for the manufacturer of an Easter egg to change the meaning of a religious festival in this way? Imagine the outcry if this had been done to Christmas. I searched for an Easter egg which mentioned the Christian story of Easter. It became clear that out of the 80 million eggs on sale there was not a single manufacturer who was willing to mention the religious aspects of the festival. So, I started The Meaningful Chocolate Company to manufacture the UKs first ‘Real Easter Egg’.

For it to be a ‘Real Easter Egg’, it had to reflect the Easter themes of hope and new life and do three things – have a copy of the Easter story in the box, be made from Fairtrade chocolate and support charitable causes.

The Real Easter Egg was launched in 2010. It was a struggle, as the supermarkets turned down the idea. It was left to churches and schools to place orders and fund the making of The Real Easter Egg. Ten years on, more than a million eggs have been sold, with over 750,000 eggs sent through the post directly to customers. The rest have been sold through retailers and supermarkets. Nearly £275,000 has been donated to charitable projects with Fairtrade Premium fees paid to farmers allowing them to buy everything from school-books and solar panels to providing fresh water.

For Easter 2020, there are five types of Real Easter Eggs available, all with new content. Each egg has an edition of the Easter story included. There is a new 24-page version in the Original and Dark eggs with activities, biblical text and a prize competition worth £200. There is a poster activity version of the Easter story in the Sharing Box and Fun Pack and a simple guide version in the Special Edition. Both the Original and Dark 2020 eggs are plastic-free and all our chocolate is Palm Oil free.

This year churches are encouraged to read more or order at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk)





## When Spring comes

*'See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth;  
the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.'*

*Song of Songs 2:11-12*

March is the month that I associate with the coming of Spring, my favourite time of the year, and such a relief after the darkness and gloom of Winter. This verse beautifully describes the joy that most of us feel as the days begin to brighten, and Nature starts to awaken once again.

These words also speak to us about a new season in life, one that is filled with hope and expectation. Sometimes we experience the darkness of winter in our lives – maybe in the form of depression, bereavement, chronic illness, family difficulties, financial problems and so on.

These long winter months of the soul may seem to last forever. Our joy disappears, our energy dissipates, our mood is low. A thick black cloud hangs over us and it seems as if the sun will never shine again.



Then we have this reminder that no season lasts for ever. The cold grip of Winter gradually thaws and gives way to warmer days. The sun does shine again, and the temperature rises. Birds sing and flowers blossom. The sap rises. Love is in the air.

And in the spiritual realm the same happens. Eventually we will enter a new season of the soul. Joy returns and life gets back to something like normality. No darkness lasts for ever.

We experience our own awakening, a kind of mini resurrection. We start to feel alive, see possibilities and to dream again.

In the depths of Winter, we can look ahead to the certainty of Spring. Faith enables us to believe that the winter of the soul will soon be past as well. In the darkness we choose to hope in God.



# 8 March – Felix of Burgundy: apostle to East Anglia



East Anglia is blessed with a rich Christian heritage. Just two examples: at more than 650, Norfolk has the greatest concentration of ancient churches in the world, and at 500, Suffolk has the second greatest density of medieval churches. And that is not to mention all the churches in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire...

And it all began with one man, back in 630 A.D., a bishop named Felix. His name in Latin means ‘successful’ and ‘happy’ – an excellent description of someone who brought great good and stability to this beautiful corner of England.

Felix came from Burgundy in France. At some point he was consecrated bishop, and went to Canterbury, to see Honorius, the Archbishop of Canterbury. In 630 the Christian king Sigebert returned from exile in Gaul to rule the East Angles, and Honorius sent Felix along with him, to evangelise the people. According to local legend, Felix went by boat, and arrived at Bablingley in Norfolk.

Felix may well have known Sigebert back in Gaul, for the two men worked exceptionally well together. Sigebert settled Felix in Dunwich, which became the centre of his diocesan ‘see’. Then, with the support of Sigebert, Felix set up the first-ever school in East Anglia. He brought teachers up from Canterbury to staff it, and the school became, according to Bede, the place “where boys could be taught letters”.

Felix had a fruitful ministry to the Anglo Saxons for 17 years. He preached Christianity, encouraged the school to grow, and did a lot of other good. All in all, Felix brought the love of God, the good news of Jesus, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit, delivering “all the province of East Anglia from long-standing unrighteousness and unhappiness,” according to Bede. Certainly, the people came to love Felix.

When Felix finally died on 8th March 647 or 648, he left the Christian faith firmly embedded in East Anglia. Six ancient English churches are dedicated to Felix, and Felixstowe bears his patronage.

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*Speed reading may be a good thing, but it was never meant for the Bible.*

*It takes calm, thoughtful, prayerful meditation on the Word  
to extract its deepest nourishment.*

Anonymous



# The Way of the Cross

‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.’ (Luke 9: 23)

These words of Jesus are spoken at a turning point in the gospel. Jesus challenges the disciples about His identity and their commitment to Him: ‘who do the crowds say I am?’ (18). It is at this point that He ‘resolutely set out for Jerusalem’ (9:51). On our journey through Lent, as we look to events of Good Friday and Easter, what are our priorities as Jesus’ disciples to be?

To deny ourselves: this means saying No to ourselves and Yes to God, as we humbly submit our will to His.

Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane ‘not My will but Yours be done.’ (Luke 22:42). It means putting Jesus first in everything: our work, family, ambitions, possessions, marriage, finance and future. We will not be guided by self-interest, but by allowing God to show us how to live in His way.

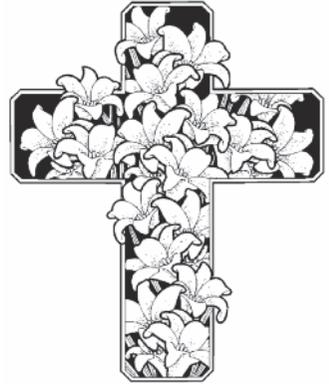


To take up our cross: this reminds us that the disciple is not immune from suffering, as we follow Jesus along the way of cross. Just as He carried His cross to Golgotha, we cannot avoid experiencing suffering in a fallen world. Every day we are to live in way that demonstrates to everyone that we have died to ourselves, our selfish ways and ambitions, and seek to live for God. It means breaking old selfish habits and ways of thinking, as we allow God to renew us by His Spirit. In all of this we cannot

lose, because like Jesus, it is only through death that we find God’s new life. ‘He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.’ (Jim Elliot)

*Father, You are always loving, always generous and kind to your children. Please have mercy on us in these times of turmoil and division. Help us to be tolerant and understanding of those who have different, sincerely-held opinions. And guide our leaders so that your will be done in our country and in our relationships with each other and with Europe and the rest of the world. Lord, have mercy on us, forgive us and heal us.*

*In Jesus name, Amen. Daphne Kitching*





## FRIDAY CLUB

Friday 10th January 2020 - “Not Through The Front Door, You Don’t!”

Mr Brian Hallworth

We welcomed Mr Hallworth to Friday Club but then we had a little hiccup because the scheduled talk “Straight from the Old Wives Mouth” had disappeared into the ether from the computer. So instead we had the above presentation which he extricated from the reluctant computer. The only problem was that he hadn’t got the right notes with him but he still managed beautifully. Previously we had prayers and two people had volunteered to make the tea and coffee and we had also welcomed a new member, Linda.

Brian began his talk in Tudor England and the peoples fears about the Devil and evil spirits. Waste went into the river ranging from human waste to dead animals. Water was naturally not drunk, it was mostly ale and you can imagine why. Down the middle of the street was a runnel of moving water to wash away waste but in hot weather there was less water and the rubbish stayed put and the stench was terrific.

A merchant named Jack Daw made a bargain with the Devil that provided he remained rich in this life he would go to Hell when he died. The Devil agreed but with the proviso that Jack would look after the troublesome ‘Daws’. Daws were black birds who made their nests on the chimneys and roofs of the houses and were very useful as they ate insects and vermin. The Devil didn’t want people to have easy lives. Jack Daw hid from the Devil and he sent the ‘daws’ to find him.

Legend doesn’t say whether they found him but since then the birds have been known as Jackdaws. People wore wooden patterns under their shoes so that they could walk above the rubbish.

In their homes the animals lived downstairs and the people lived upstairs. The animals waste went into a cess pit. The houses often had horseshoes on their doors. In pagan times it was hung like a ‘U’ but in Christian times it was turned upside-down. When building a home some iron was put in the foundations to keep evil from coming up into the house. The houses were whitewashed because white was supposed to keep away the Devil. Also there were ‘white’ curtains to stop evil spirits from getting in. Often there would be a jar of pins near a window so that if a witch came by she would stop to count the pins and forget to come in.



*The Devil appears to a witch with some of his familiars including a jackdaw. (16th Century)*





If you accidentally see a new moon you can remove the bad luck by turning your wedding ring round or if you are a man jingle the coins in your pocket. You wore a wedding ring on the third finger of your left hand because it was thought a vein went from this finger to your heart - this was eventually found to be a fallacy. If you're getting married you have to tell the bees or they might move. Beeswax was sold by the church to make candles especially for Candlemas on the 2nd February. Usually ordinary people used rushes or straw and animal fat to make candles. If your candle gutters then you will be ill. If you turn round and see no head on your shadow you would be dead in two days. These were really ruses so that you wouldn't sit too near the candle.

The superstition that it was bad luck to walk under a ladder came from the idea that the ladder made a triangle shape with the wall and this was a symbol of the Trinity and if you walked underneath a ladder you were breaking the Trinity and losing the protection of God. Strange though it may seem a dead man's hand gave good luck and could cure illnesses. To get rid of a curse, cross your fingers on both hands and when you see a church the curse is broken and you can uncross them.

Superstition governed our lives for many hundreds of years and there are still remnants of them today. A black cat was considered lucky. A rowan tree was planted in each corner of the garden to get rid of the fairies and evil spirits. Lots of people made their own cheese and the churn was made from ash wood as the fairies didn't like it. Butter was wrapped in butterburr as it kept butter cool. In pregnancy you can use butter to rub on your tummy to avoid stretch marks. If you move house then butter the cat's paws as it would be so tired from washing them that it would not go back to its former home. Rub a cat's tail on a wart to remove it.



*A cat churning butter*

Banns were read so that neighbours had an opportunity to object. Apparently in the past the woman didn't listen to her banns or her first child would be an idiot. If both went to hear the banns all the children would be idiots. There were 'besom' weddings where the couple jumped over a besom together and it was considered just as legal as a church wedding. The bride had to have something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue and a silver sixpence worn in the left shoe at her wedding. After the wedding the sixpence was wrapped in tissue paper and as long as the bride kept it she would be happy. Traditionally the bride baked wedding biscuits for her guests and if there were any left over they were to be given to the poor. Now we have a wedding cake. The bottom is eaten by the guests and the top was kept for the christening of the first child. The tradition of throwing the bouquet replaced an earlier one where lady guests and bridesmaids chased the bride to tear strips from her dress. (Cont on page 14)

*(Continued from page 13)* If you break a mirror, gather up the pieces and quickly throw them into a stream so that the devil couldn't tell who had broken it and give you seven years of bad luck, though the solution wasn't very good for the local animals! In France if a mirror maker broke a mirror he had to pay for seven years.

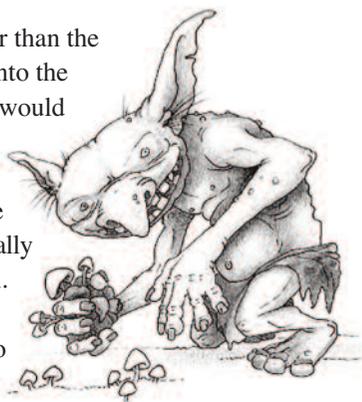
The rhyme of "night, night, sleep tight" is a reminder of the time when beds had ropes that were pulled tight underneath the mattress. If they weren't pulled tight you had an uncomfortable night's sleep. Under the bed were potties as it was a long way in the night to the privy. Often there were painted flowers decorating the bottom of the potty usually of sweet peas.

If there was a teapot on the table which was poured by two people one of them would fall pregnant. Crossed knives on the table signified fighting, so you had to pull the bottom one out carefully to avoid this. In the 17th century when you had eaten a boiled egg you turned the egg shell upside down and bashed it otherwise a witch could use it to make a potion. The Devil could get hold of hair or nail clippings to harm you so people disposed of them in the fire.

When a woman had her first child its placenta was put on the fire and the number of times it popped was the number of children she would go on to have. You were churched and then the child was baptised. When you died you went into church feet first but the priest went in head first because he was nearer to God. It is still considered bad luck to put new shoes on the table. This comes from the time when a corpse was given a new pair of shoes at the funeral. The corpse would wear his boots with the new shoes placed on top of the coffin. So new shoes on a table meant there should be a coffin underneath it, not a happy thought!

Most people used their back door to come and go rather than the front door as there was a superstition that if you went into the house by one door and out by another then all the luck would go out of the house. Brian as a child used to tease his Grandmother, who lived nearby, by leaving her house by the front door even when she shouted "go out by the back door!" He used to run away from home a lot especially if his Mum wanted him to tidy his room or to have a bath. He usually ran away as far as his Grans. He was at his Grans and about six years old when his Mother came to check if he was there and so he hid quickly behind a chair. "No, he's not here," said his Gran "but there's a boggart behind that chair." She pointed to the chair where he was hiding and Brian shot out and never went out of the front door again.

We thanked Brian for his enlightening and amusing talk and enjoyed our usual refreshments and a good chat. *(Continued on page 15)*



(Continued from page 14) Friday 24th January 2020 - New Year Lunch

For this meal we went to 'The Millington', meeting at 12.00 noon for 12.30pm. Most of us bought a drink and took it to our tables and settled for a chat while we waited for our meal. Julia Ball, our secretary had organised it all and we were all given a piece of paper with the items we had chosen on it. Some of us had two courses and some had three. Once the food arrived there was a lull in the conversation. We enjoyed our meal which was nicely served and wenjoyed a cup of tea or coffee afterwards. Julia went to pay and thank the staff. On her return I thanked Julia on behalf of us all and gradually we dispersed and went home. It is strange that something so enjoyable engenders so little to write about! *Lily Mitchelhill*

### Dates for your Diary

Mar 6th World Day of Prayer at Grove Lane Baptist Church at 2.00pm. All Welcome

Mar 20th "Elizabeth Raffald, The Experienced English Housekeeper"

Suze Appleton 2.00pm All Welcome

Mar 26th Corporate Communion for Friday Club at 10.00am. All Welcome



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# The bonus years

*Our days may come to 70 years, or 80, if our strength endures.’ (Psalm 90:10)*

I have known this verse most of my life, but only this month has it become reality for me. Yes, I have transitioned into my 70s and am now a septuagenarian. It is a strange feeling as I realise that I am now in my bonus years. With 25,550 days of my life already gone, each new day is to be welcomed as a gift and enjoyed to the full.

Life expectancy in the UK is currently 79.2 years for men and 82.9 years for women, so hopefully there are still a few years ahead of me. However, we cannot take our health for granted, nor that of our loved ones. This is the period when the fact of our mortality – and that of those around us – will become increasingly real.

Psalm 90 was written by Moses who lived to the grand old age of 120, and who stayed in remarkable health – his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone (Deuteronomy 34:7). Growing old is not too bad when you have good health and adequate resources, but for many of us that may not be the case. Indeed, Moses – with a touch of realism (or pessimism?) – also says about our years that ‘the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away’ (v10).

All the more reason, then to remember that God, the One who is from everlasting to everlasting, can be our dwelling-place (v1). He can be our refuge, and our fortress, the One in whom we place our trust. Whatever our later years may bring, we can dwell safely in the shelter of the Most High and rest securely in the shadow of the Almighty (Psalm 91:1-2).

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# ALL SAINTS CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Church Meeting Room. We learn new skills and practise old ones. Tea/coffee, biscuits and good company are always on offer. Please join us. All are welcome.

For further details please contact Frances Pickett on 0161 439 8890.



## All Saints' Website and Facebook



Keep up to date with news and events on the All Saints' website. Find out about our charity work, community groups and listen to recent sermons.



Please contact Sarah Ball on: [comms@allsaintsheadleholme.org.uk](mailto:comms@allsaintsheadleholme.org.uk) with any stories and updates.

Find All Saints' on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCH/> and "Like" us to get notifications about our news and events.



## Church Open

The next Saturday Coffee Morning will be on  
March 14th.



## MEN'S SOCIETY

Monthly meetings on the first Thursday, September to May, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room (unless otherwise stated). After the talk there is a short question and answer session followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

The upcoming programme includes:

**Thursday 5 March**

**The nostalgia of British Travel - talk by John Hooley**

**Thursday 2 April**

**"Eco power" - illustrated talk by Bernard Champness**

**Saturday 18 April**

**Coffee Morning 10 to 11.30 am in the meeting room**

Although this group is attended by men, if you are interested in hearing any of the speakers you will be most welcome to come along.

Chairman: Bradley Torbitt (0161 486 9387)

Secretary: Mike Parry (0161 485 7886)

# Psalm 84 – a heart for pilgrimage

This psalm is appropriate to think about during Lent, as it was used by pilgrims going up to Jerusalem. It speaks of the journey to find the presence of God in our lives. Where is our heart with God?



**A Heart for God's Presence:** 'How lovely is your dwelling-place, Lord Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.' (v1,2). For the psalmist, the Temple is the focus of God's presence and the place where he longs to be. How much do we long to know God's presence ourselves? Lent is a time to seek Him through the spiritual disciplines of Bible reading, prayer, fasting, silence and solitude.



**A Heart set on Pilgrimage:** 'Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage. As they pass through the Valley of Baka, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools.' (5,6). Lent reminds us

that the Christian life is a journey of faith, which is not always easy. We pass through the valley of Baka, which is the dry desert place in our experience. Here God can seem remote and silent. However, it also the season when we are refreshed by the Holy Spirit filling our lives.

**A Heart that's Undivided:** 'Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.' (10). We will find a home in God's presence only with an undivided heart, as we maintain our focus on God and trust him for all we need.



His spirit, His soul, in heaven above, resting in your perfect love.

*When we live in faith and in trust, we do not need proof.*

When you can remember and not get angry or upset. Then you have found your inner strength.

*Thank you Lord for the love and joy of sharing and caring for each other*



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Please God, our Father in Heaven,  
lay your blessings on all suffering people.  
Your guidance on all who are lost and  
need to find you and your way of life.  
Then they will come to know your Peace  
and love in their hearts.



*Take Christ into your life during the good  
times. Please approach Him in bad, hard  
times and give His way a time to help and  
heal. It often takes time.*



That at the end of a God given  
life, we can go to a God given  
peace. Thank you Holy Trinity.

*When things seem against you,  
the Lord will help you.  
He is our ever faithful friend,  
you just have to ask.*

For all the Joy and Happiness  
that comes to me when I think  
of You, Lord Jesus Christ,  
Thank You.



*I see you in every flower that grows,  
I feel you when the gentle wind blows,  
and when I am afraid I ask you  
to hold me and You do.  
Thank you Lord*

Lord of all, Lord above,  
Thank you for your perfect love.

*The day we say good bye to sin,  
We find the Holy Spirit living within.*



There is a helper in our midst,  
if only we could think of Him,  
or feel Him in our hearts  
and hear Him. The Holy  
Spirit is ever near but we must call  
Him and listen for Him.



*Closer to God my heart could not be.*

When you make someone happy, you will  
be happy too.

*Bless you with the love of Jesus Christ.  
May He be with you all your life.*



When you believe in God,  
You will believe in yourself.

*Charity's heart has many hands,  
and reaches far and near.*



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# Parish Calendar and Registers

## MARCH 2020

### SUNDAY SERVICES

- 8.00am Holy Communion  
(2nd in month)
- 10.00am The Parish Communion.  
We welcome children and encourage them to bring their parents. There is a supervised creche in Church for the under 5's.  
On the second Sunday of each month this will be our Family Communion and Parade Service. We serve coffee in Church after the service - please come and join us.
- 6.30pm Evensong.

### WEEKDAY SERVICES

- Holy Communion:  
Thursdays at 10.00am  
Holy Days as announced
- Matins: Mondays, Wednesdays,  
Thursdays and Fridays at 9.00am
- See the weekly news sheet for further details.*

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## ALTAR FLOWER ROTA MARCH 2020

- 1st LENT  
8th LENT  
15th LENT  
22nd MOTHERING SUNDAY  
29th LENT

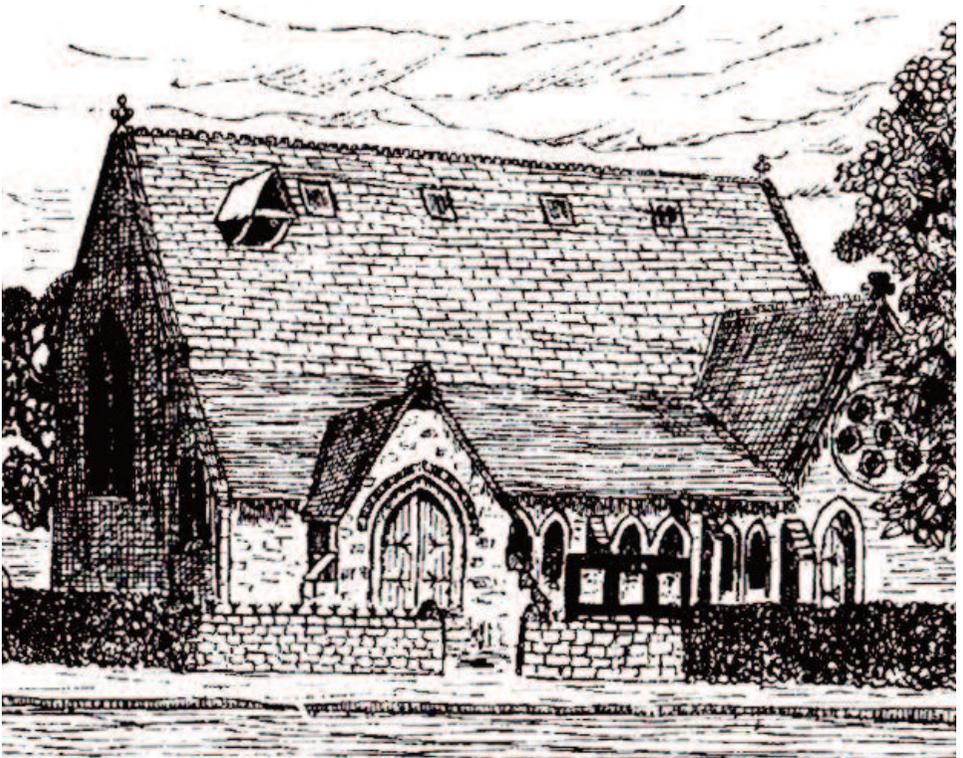
*If you wish to discuss any aspect of church flowers including wedding flowers please contact Frances Pickett (0161 439 8890)*

*Nigel Beeton writes: In 2020, we shall be marking some wartime anniversaries; 80 years since the Battle of Britain and 75 since VE and VJ Days. March seems to have two such milestones. Eighty years ago, 16th March 1940 saw the first casualty of German bombing following an air raid on Scapa Flow, while 29th March sees the 75th anniversary of the last German ordnance to fall on British soil, a VI bomb which landed in Hertfordshire. It brings to mind the terrifying nature of air raids, terror which few alive today can recall. My mother had no air raid shelter; she, her mother, and my uncle used to hide under the dining room table while bombs fell nearby:*

### The Table

The table in our dining room,  
Where daily dinners are consumed;  
Where Mother serves her wondrous pies!  
Where candled cakes light birthday eyes!  
That table in our dining room  
Now stands against our fiery doom;  
Beneath it, we, in trembling fear  
Can feel the shocks as bombs fall near.  
That table in our dining room  
Unseen within the blackout gloom  
Dark sentinel of precious lives  
As, overhead, the bombers dive.  
The table in our dining room,  
It could, maybe have been our tomb!  
Protects us from our foes up there  
Supported by our fervent prayer!  
The silence comes – the planes are gone  
We thank the Lord with joyful song  
As we emerge from our cocoon –  
The table in our dining room.

*By Nigel Beeton*



## **Christian Stewardship**

The Parish practises the principles of Christian Stewardship in its giving for the work of God. If you are interested to learn more about it please contact the Recorder, Kate Hughes (485 1010), the Vicar or the Churchwardens. The giving of time and talents is encouraged, If you wish to help in some capacity in the Church services or organisations, in improving or maintaining the Church fabric or grounds, or in visiting and helping the sick or housebound, please speak to the Clergy or the Churchwardens.



# All Saints Cheadle Hulme

# PARISH DIRECTORY

**Clergy:** \*The Rev'd Janet Bacon, All Saints Vicarage, 27 Church Road SK8 7JL (485 3455)  
The Rev'd Janet Owens (Retired) (312 4683)

**Readers:** Mrs Pat Yates (485 4546)  
\*Mr Michael Aiers (439 7692)

**Church Wardens:** \*Mrs Janet Ashman (485 7969)  
\*John Ackerley (486 1419)

**Deputy Wardens:** \*Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647)  
\*Ms Sarah Ball (07966 146746)

**Organist:** \*Miss Trevlyn Thomas (485 8026)

**Sacristan:** \*Mrs Janet Valentine (439 8203)

**P.C.C. Vice Chairman and Treasurer:** \*Mr Jeremy Valentine (439 8203)

**P.C.C. Secretary:** \*Mrs Linda Ackerley (486 1419)

**Planned Giving and Gift Aid Secretary:** \*Mrs Kate Hughes (485 1010)

**Mainly Music Co-ordinator and Child Protection Officer:** \*Mrs Clare Russell (486 9304)

**Church Room Bookings:** Mr Neville Ashman (485 7969)

**Parish Rooms Bookings:** Ms Joanna Parsons, Parish Room Cottage, Church Road, SK8 7JB  
(485 2596)

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Dr David Jones (01625 850997)

**Parish Magazine Editor:** Mr Rhys Davenport (485 6772) Email: seed.design@mail.com

**Website and Social Media:** \*Ms Sarah Ball Email: comms@allsaintsheadleulme.org.uk

**Parish Magazine Secretary and Treasurer:**  
Mrs Chris Spencer (485 8282)

**Deanery Synod Representatives:** \*Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647)

\*Miss Irene Walton (439 6096)

**P.C.C. Members are marked\* Other members**

Mesdames: L. Bacon, M. Epps, C. Jones, L. Karuku, F. Pickett, S. Stone